

## **VA GROUND WATER PROTECTION STEERING COMMITTEE**

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held on  
**Tuesday, September 21, 2004 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.**

**DEQ 629 East Main Street Richmond VA**

For more information contact Mary Ann Massie at 804-698-4042 or  
email [mamassie@deq.state.va.us](mailto:mamassie@deq.state.va.us)

### **Meeting Summary: Tuesday, July 20, 2004**

Steering Committee members in attendance:

Mary Ann Massie, Department of Environmental Quality

Howard Freeland, Department of Environmental Quality

Chris Adkins, Department of Health

Jody Aston, Department of Conservation and Recreation

Wyatt Little, Department of Housing and Community Development

Nancy Miller, Department of Conservation and Recreation-Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance

Jim McKean, Department of Business Assistance

Randy McFarland, US Geological Survey

Others:

Dr. Greg Evanylo, Virginia Tech

Josh Rubinstein, Virginia Rural Water Association

Judy Poff, Virginia Water Resources Research Center

Reed Barrows, DEQ Wastewater Engineering

David Bradshaw, Olver Inc.

Agencies not in attendance:

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Department of Mines Minerals and Energy, Department of General Services/Division of Consolidated Laboratories, and Virginia Cooperative Extension.

Dr. Greg Evanylo, Department of Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences Virginia Tech, gave an informative presentation on his research activities on the "Availability and Transport of Biosolids Constituents Through Soil". Dr. Evanylo's research focused on nitrogen and trace elements/metals. The presentation included an overview of wastewater treatment processes, laws and regulations pertaining to biosolids and results of his extensive research. Part of his presentation centered on his work with the amount of available nitrogen as it relates to soil types and the timing of the application (winter vs. spring) of biosolids and/or commercial fertilizers. The balance of his presentation centered on his work with metals and trace elements. Analysis of 17 years of data collected at a site in Orange VA was the focus of the discussion. Dr. Evanylo stressed that the presence of metals in the soil was not as important as the bioavailability of the metals. In general metals and trace elements sorb to the Piedmont soils with no loss or impact to ground water.

## **AGENCY UPDATES:**

### **Department of Environmental Quality**

Howard Freeland, Waste Division, reported progress in filling his personnel vacancies.

Mary Ann Massie, Water Resource Division, reported the ground water festival is on track for September 23 at the Selu Conservancy at Radford. Cynthia Hancock, Skyline Soil and Water Conservation District, is working with Floyd County teachers to ensure another successful event. Two days are planned for the Coastal Plain festival with Audrey Brainard as chair. Camp Kitty will be the site of for the Coastal Plain festival.

The 2005 Ground Water Protection Grant workplan was finalized and incorporated in the Performance Partnership Grant.

DEQ will initiate development of an EPA approved State Wellhead Protection Plan in the future.

### **Department of Health**

Chris Adkins introduced David Bradshaw with Olver Inc. Mr. Bradshaw is working with small community water systems under the VDH Source Water Protection grant.

### **US Geological Survey**

Randy McFarland, USGS, provided the following update:

A pair of deep observation wells was completed in early June near the center of the Chesapeake Bay impact crater at Cape Charles, under an effort by Ward Sanford of the USGS National Research Program. One well is 2,280 feet deep and the other is 1,380 feet deep. Continuous core obtained from the bore hole during drilling from 2,440 feet to the bottom of the hole at 2,700 feet exhibits intense deformation of crystalline bedrock resulting from the impact which has not previously been observed at other locations. In addition, pore water obtained from sediments cored between 1,400 and 1,420 feet is significantly saltier than seawater. Water-level and chemical quality data from the wells will help to determine the effects of the crater on ground-water flow, and the relation of the impact to high salinity ground water.

### **Department of Conservation and Recreation**

Jody Aston reported an RFP will be issued for the Water Quality Improvement Fund monies. 319NPS funds will be allocated to personnel and TMDL work in 2005. A Citizen's Water Quality Summit will be held on July 24 in Charlottesville.

### **Department of Business Assistance**

Jim McKean reported their director Chuck Mills is retiring.

### **Department of Housing and Community Development**

Wyatt Little no new announcement for grants and water related projects.

### **Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance Department**

Nancy Miller noted the following: Secretary Murphy has announced the merger of CBLAD into DCR, effective July 1, 2004, and the agency is now known as the Division of Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance. The Secretary also distributed a general survey to the affected Tidewater localities, PDCs and other interested stakeholders, seeking information regarding their needs/interests/expectations for the State's Bay Act program. Responses will be returned to DCR's Director, Joe Maroon.

The Division conducted a strategic planning process this spring, and the resulting goals and objectives will help establish the work activities addressed by the Division during the transition phase now underway.

Judy Poff, VWRRC, distributed the executive summary to their Desalination Report. She noted they are planning for their October 2004 symposium to be held in Blacksburg.

Josh Rubenstein, VRWA, distributed the latest Streamline.

Reed Barrows, DEQ Wastewater Engineering, commented on the latest technology, membrane filter technology, for wastewater treatment.

After the GWPSC meeting Josh R., Chris A., David Bradshaw, and Mary Ann M. met to discuss source water protection activities.

**THE NEXT MEETING IS SET FOR TUESDAY, September 21, 2004**